

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott
Joel Jacobs
Marshall Johnson
Edward Garvey
LeRoy Koppendraye

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company's**
Request for Approval of Certified Actual
Costs Associated with the **Brown County** 911
Emergency Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: August 8, 2000

DOCKET NO. **P-5270/ES-99-1699**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911
SYSTEM COSTS

BACKGROUND

On May 27, 1986, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Brown County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone Services System.

On July 29, 1987, the Commission approved the actual costs GTE Minnesota (formerly known as Continental and Contel) incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Brown County.

On March 16, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs U S West Communications (formerly known as Northwestern Bell) incurred for placing a portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Brown County.

On August 3, 1988, the Commission approved the actual costs New Ulm Telephone Company, Sleepy Eye Telephone Company and Western Telephone Company incurred for placing their portion of a 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Brown County.

On April 26, 1995, the Commission approved the additional costs Sleepy Eye Telephone Company incurred for the provision of 911 Emergency Service in Brown County.

On February 9, 1996, the Commission granted Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company (IES, LLC) a Certificate of Authority to provide certain telephone services such as Enhanced 911(E911), Private Switch/Automatic Location Identification, Trunking Services, E911 Tandem Services, and data management services throughout the State of Minnesota, excluding the seven-county metropolitan area: Anoka, Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington, Carver, Scott and Dakota.

On September 26, 1997, the Commission approved the additional costs Western Telephone Company and New Ulm Telephone incurred for the provision of 911 Emergency Service in

Brown County.

On April 7, 1998, Brown County contracted with IES, LLC for 911 Emergency Telephone Services.

On June 4, 1999, the Commission approved the actual costs IES, LLC incurred for the provision of tandem based Automatic Number Identification (ANI) service in the Brown County 911 Emergency system.

CURRENT FILING

Between April 9, 1999 and October 11, 1999, Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company (the Company) installed Automatic Location Identification (ALI) service in the Brown County 911 Emergency system.

On October 29, 1999, the Company certified the actual costs it incurred for the provision of ALI service.

Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company is now requesting Commission approval of the ALI system costs. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this section and the governor shall include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Independent Emergency Services Limited Liability Company has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911 services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Brown County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Brown County

which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

Policy References:

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1500 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Central Office Modification Costs

ORDER

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate pursuant to the Commission's March 21, 2000 Standing Order Designating Filings Requesting Certification of 911 Costs As Filings Subject to Approval Under Minn. Stat. § 216A.03, Subd. 7, Docket No. P-999/CI-99-1723.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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STATE OF MINNESOTA)
)SS
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I _____, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the ____ day of _____, 2000 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Brown County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P-5270/ES-99-1699.**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

MR BILL SCHNELLMAN
TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
500 CENTENNIAL OFFICE BUILDING
658 CEDAR STREET
ST PAUL MN 55155

MS DOROTHY JESERITZ
INDEPENDENT EMERGENCY
SERVICES LIMITED LIABILITY CO
235 FRANKLIN ST SW
P O BOX 279
HUTCHINSON MN 55350

JAMES R BEUTELSPACHER
STATE 9-1-1 PROJECT MANAGER
BUSINESS TECHNOLOGIES DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
500 CENTENNIAL OFFICE BUILDING
658 CEDAR STREET
ST PAUL MN 55155

Subscribed and sworn to before me, _____

a notary public, this _____ day of

_____, 2000.

Notary Public